

## LIKELY SCHOOL ROW IN PORT RICHMOND.

The Trustees, in Removing Principal Hoag, Have Stirred Up a Hornet's Nest.

Citizens' Committee Investigates, and Now the Trustees Are Asked to Step Down and Out.

### ALLEGED IRREGULARITIES FOUND.

Indignant Citizens Hold a Mass-Meeting and Call Upon State Superintendent Skinner to Act at Once.

Port Richmond, S. I., March 12.—A school fight, the fiercest of its kind in the history of Richmond County, is now stirring up the people of this village.

Griffith's Hall was packed to the doors with citizens to-night, at a public indignation meeting, held to protest against the action of two of the school trustees, and to demand their removal from office.

The Citizens' Committee, appointed at a previous meeting, made its report and announced that State Superintendent of Public Instruction Skinner, at Albany, had been appealed to, and that sufficient evidence of irregularities on the part of Trustees Vail and Jannerman had been submitted to warrant him in ousting them from office.

The school affected is No. 6, of Port Richmond. It is a union free school, and the building was erected four years ago at a cost of \$20,000.

**WANTED HOAG REINSTATED.** Professor O. H. Hoag was the principal of the school up to December 2 last, when he was removed and placed in charge of one class, and Miss S. E. Eldridge was selected by the Board to take his place. At last night's meeting a demand was made for Professor Hoag's reinstatement as principal, and the principal and financial interests alleged to have been involved in the Board's action were thoroughly ventilated.

The citizens' committee which made the report had been directed to make a thorough investigation of the management of the school and inquire into the causes which led up to Professor Hoag's forced retirement as principal. The report covered about sixty typewritten pages and told of some queer financial transactions on the part of the trustees, and completely exonerated Professor Hoag. The reading of the report was frequently interrupted by prolonged cheering and loud cries.

The organization of the Board of Trustees and its subdivisions into committees came in for considerable criticism.

It was charged that Messrs. Vail and Jannerman, forming a majority of the Board, had delegated to themselves full power to act, the former as Committee on Books and Supplies, and the latter as Committee on Teachers and School Management. Mr. Ingalls had been designated as Committee on Fire Drill.

**QUEER MONEY TRANSACTIONS.** Some of the financial transactions of the Board were exposed to the light. It was charged that Trustee Jannerman had paid \$33.69 for window curtains for the school, which could be duplicated for \$18. Of this sum, \$30 for material had been paid to a woman who is a member of Mr. Jannerman's family, and not engaged in business.

The committee considered this transaction irregular and not in the interest of the taxpayers who support the school. Another charge was then made. It seems that the school flag had become torn, and Mr. Jannerman had paid the same members of his family \$3 for repairing it. The committee claimed that one of the teachers in the school had offered to do the work for nothing.

The third charge was that Mr. Jannerman had bought five gallons of kerosene for the school of this same woman, a member of his family. The price paid was \$14, and the committee claimed to have learned that it could have been purchased elsewhere for fifty cents.

The fact that Trustee Vail's son appears on the pay roll as the assistant janitor of the school hall at \$10 a month was also brought out. It was claimed that young Vail had never been seen about the place.

**TRUSTEES' RESIGNATIONS.** The trouble in the Board was officially caused, it is said, by Trustee Ingalls's refusal to retain a certain teacher who did not at the time possess a State certificate.

This resulted in Mr. Jannerman being put forward as a candidate for the vacancy in the Board at last year's election. Mr. Jannerman was elected by the Republicans, with the assistance of Archibald Fulton, the local Miller (Democrat) leader. Since then, it is alleged, Fulton has had a good deal to say about the management of the school.

Fulton, Vail and Jannerman were hostile to Professor Hoag for personal as well as political reasons. On December 21 last the Board called upon Professor Hoag, their principal, for his resignation. A week later it rescinded its action, and subsequently transferred him to the academic department, promoting Miss Eldridge over him.

The meeting last night adjourned after endorsing the report of the committee. The end of the fight has not been reached. It was said last night that the two accused trustees were preparing a case, with the assistance of ex-District Attorney Fitzgerald, and would make public their answer to the charges.

### A STABLEMAN'S FATAL FALL.

Oscar Booth Pitched Through a Trap Door and Was Killed.

Oscar Booth, thirty-two years old, employed as coach driver by Undertaker B. N. Crane, of Washington street, Hoboken, met with a fatal accident while working in his employer's stable yesterday afternoon. With several other employees Booth was engaged in taking down a light sleigh that had been placed in a loft, about ten feet above the stable floor.

When they had landed the sleigh one of the men started to close the trap door. "Wait; I'll show you how to do it," said Booth.

He stepped forward, lost his balance, and pitched headlong through the trap. His skull was fractured when he fell, and he was picked up, and died shortly after being taken to St. Mary's Hospital. He lived at No. 106 Second street. About five days ago he was discharged from Christ Hospital, where he had been since February 17, when he was injured in a runaway accident.

### Next Sunday's

will describe the plan.

## PRETTY GIRL BEHIND BARS

She Was Sent to Jail on a Charge of Disorderly Conduct Made by Her Father.

Elizabeth, N. J., March 12.—May Clark is one of the prettiest girls in Plainfield. She has laughing eyes and curly hair and is bright and vivacious. She is just budding into womanhood, and the restrictions of home were distasteful to her.

To-day she is wearing the prison garb in the Union County Jail here. She was sent there by her father on a charge of disorderly conduct. Judge De Meuse of Plainfield, committing her. She would not stay at home, and her father took this drastic method of enforcing his commands.

A young man called to see her to-day. She blushed with pleasure at the sight of him and hid her head when she thought of the horrible prison clothes. He used to be her suitor and came to say he would not forget her, and when the thirty days' sentence was up he wanted to be her friend as before.

There was a world of gratitude in her eyes as she said "Good-by" to him, with happy thoughts in her heart and the sound of wedding bells in her ears.

## SHE THRASHED "JOHN L."

Victor a Pretty School Teacher; Victim a Mischievous Pupil Who Tried to Run Everything.

Elizabeth, N. J., March 12.—"John L." is the sobriquet enjoyed by young Walter Thompson, of Clark Township, this county. He gained it by his successful bouts with all kinds of boys and most of his school teachers. He met his match, however, in Miss Emma Thompson, a pretty young woman, who is his school teacher.

On Monday he concluded to vex Miss Emma, and so refused one of her commands. She caught him by the collar, and landed him on the floor, sat on him and applied the fustian. Then she evicted the astounded "John L." from the room and resumed her teaching. The franks had so astonished the other pupils that not one made any effort to help their former idol, and now plucky Miss Emma has but to nod to be obeyed.

## POLICE KEPT GUESSING.

Domestic Troubles of the Smith Family Give the Authorities No End of Worry.

Newark, N. J., March 12.—Between Mrs. Bridget Smith, her husband, Edward, and their eight-month-old twins, the police of this city are at present having their hands full.

The couple are young and have been married only a couple of years, but their domestic relations have been such that Edward left his wife and went to board with a Mrs. Anna Connors, just around the corner from where his wife lived at No. 82 Jackson street.

The story of Mrs. Smith's arrest, on complaint of Mrs. Connors, and the abandonment of her children in the snow, was told yesterday. To-day she was again summoned to court to answer a charge of abandoning the twins, and her husband was also arrested, charged with failing to support the tots. Meanwhile the little ones are being tossed about from pillar to post, first being cared for by one neighbor, then another, and then by the police.

They may finally come under the care of the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children, the superintendent of which was now taken up the case against Mrs. Smith and her husband.

## TERRORS OF WASHINGTON.

Two Men, One Colored, Chase Women on the Street, Are Shot At, But Escape and Continue Their Work.

Washington, N. J., March 12.—The slayer of Miss Mamie Sullivan, the Paterson music teacher, may now be Paterson again. He was seen yesterday in the city, wearing a large, gray overcoat, accompanied by a negro, he was terrorizing women during the past few nights.

Their first appearance in Washington was last Friday night. Two women were walking down East Washington avenue, and when opposite the M. E. Church, a man wearing a large gray overcoat and a slouch hat came across the street and peered into their faces. The women had gone but a short distance when one of them looked around, and saw the man approaching them on tip-toe. They ran screaming into City Attorney Barton's house, and the felons departed.

A diligent search was made for the "grabbers," but no trace of them could be found. Many reports of women being stopped have reached Police Chief Shroppe's ears, but it was not until Monday night that he located the men on Church street. Shroppe gave them an exciting chase, but they out-ran him.

While on his way to Mayor Smith's office Tuesday night Shroppe was informed that Mrs. Joseph Sells, a colored woman, had been stopped by the men. He gave chase, but the fellows escaped, after Shroppe had emptied the contents of his revolver at them. Last night the two women had an encounter with the men on a lonely street. Their cries for help frightened the miscreants and they fled. The women are being hunted about leaving their homes after dark.

## BEAT A MOTORMAN SEVERELY.

Two Drunken Men Attacked Benjamin Turner on His Car.

Nutley, N. J., March 12.—Benjamin Turner, a motorman of the Passaic and Newark Electric Railway, which runs through this place, was attacked by two drunken men last night. The latter were disorderly, and the motorman was assisting the conductor to quiet them, when they turned on Turner, knocked him down and beat him unmercifully. His assailants then jumped off the car and escaped.

## Baby Boy Died Suddenly.

Mrs. Martha Simmons, colored, of No. 58 Harrison avenue, Jersey City, reported at 8:30 a. m. yesterday to the Fourth Precinct police that her baby boy, two months old, had died suddenly. She said that she had called upon two physicians Wednesday night, but that they had failed to answer her summons. County Physician Collier will investigate.

## OLD NEPTUNE

will be astounded when he hears of the new scheme to

LIGHT UP THE OCEAN.

Next Sunday's

BRILLIANT JOURNAL

will describe the plan.

## ENDS BURIED TREASURES.

How Franklin Pearce Located Hidden Wealth in the Wilds of Jersey.

In One Instance He Says He Saw a Shining Gold Piece Dangling in the Air.

## CLAIMS GOLD IS BURIED THERE.

At Another Time He Declares He Saw a Big Dog Guarding a Rock, and Underneath He Found a Box of Money. His Lonely Life in Etna, N. J.

Hilldale, N. J., March 12.—Franklin W. Pearce lives alone in a small building near the depot at Etna, N. J. He eats, sleeps, and cooks his food in one small room, about 8 by 10 feet. He makes his living by working for the farmers around the place, and the rest of the time he employs in hunting and trapping in the streams and woods near by. He keeps all the way from three to half a dozen dogs, and as many guns and pistols. He is an army veteran, and belongs to the G. A. R.

On Washington's Birthday he claimed to have found a little tin box, buried under the roots of an apple tree in a nearby orchard where he was at work. He came out with a large rock, and saw a dog lying on top of it, which snarled and growled at him in a ferocious manner, and chased him up a tree. Pearce says the dog ran back to the rock and laid down on it again. He shot at it, but the bullets took no effect. He climbed the tree, and found a box buried there. He says he watched the place until the dog went away, and began to dig around the rock, and found a box of money. One of the coins had the picture of a sunburst on one side, and on the other was inscribed the words: "Mind Your Business."

The manner in which he found some of the other boxes, he said, was revealed to him when he was travelling through the woods on a hunting expedition. He came to a large rock, and saw a dog lying on top of it, which snarled and growled at him in a ferocious manner, and chased him up a tree. Pearce says the dog ran back to the rock and laid down on it again. He shot at it, but the bullets took no effect. He climbed the tree, and found a box buried there. He says he watched the place until the dog went away, and began to dig around the rock, and found a box of money. One of the coins had the picture of a sunburst on one side, and on the other was inscribed the words: "Mind Your Business."

He claims to know where there is a pot of gold hidden in the woods near by, but he will not divulge his secret to any one else. He says he may dig gold pieces in the air above the spot where it was hidden, and on making an investigation he found the place between two trees, but has not yet examined the pot to see what it contains.

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## A MODEL SCHOOLHOUSE.

Perth Amboy Has Started a New Structure Which Promises to Be One of the Finest in the State.

Perth Amboy, N. J., March 12.—This town is very proud of its school buildings, but the latest, which has just been begun, promises to be among the finest in the State. Henry J. King, of Newark, is the architect.

It is three stories in height and built of Sayre & Fisher Jersey brick, faced throughout with Morton North River brick, laid in red and black mortar. The trimmings throughout are of bluestone, axed, with additional red terra cotta trimmings on the front extension. Cornices are of galvanized iron, and the main and rear extension roofs are covered with slate. The front gable and tower roofs are covered with metal. The main roof has a central ridge and the central ridge is covered with terra cotta.

The plan of the building shows a main edifice fifty-nine feet six inches front, by fifty-seven feet six inches deep, with front extension forty-four feet six inches, and in the rear there is an extension forty feet wide by fifteen feet six inches deep. There is on the front a massive entrance porch, reaching on two sides with rounded brackets and trimmed with terra cotta. The porch is decked roof and coped with terra cotta. The main floor contains a large hall, a large reception room, and principal's and teachers' room on the various stories. The little stepping windows on the front make the building to the eye a story.

There are also two staircases on the classroom floors, connecting the rooms and front corridors. The main floor contains the boys' and girls' play courts and the sanitary closets, also the warm air furnace, and the main roof has a central ridge and the central ridge is covered with terra cotta.

Each floor is exceptionally well lighted and heated. The building contract has been awarded to Thomas Langdon, of Perth Amboy, at \$10,468, not including heating work and sanitary. The main roof has a central ridge and the central ridge is covered with terra cotta.

In treatment the general design of the edifice is Renaissance, and tends to give it a very imposing effect.

## Whooping Cough Epidemic.

Bloomfield, N. J., March 12.—Whooping cough has become epidemic in this town and Glen Ridge, two miles above. Nearly two hundred cases have been reported, and there is some talk of closing the schools. Miss Freeman's kindergarten school has closed temporarily.

## Wood Died from His Injuries.

New Brunswick, N. J., March 12.—William Wood, of Newark, the employee of the Pennsylvania Railroad who fell off the bridge here yesterday, died this morning in the hospital. Wood was working with a construction crew, and while taking off a load of lumber in the building snow storm he lost his footing and fell to the ground, a distance of thirty feet.

## Perth Amboy's Proposed High School.

A modern structure which, when finished, will be one of the finest school houses in the State of New Jersey.



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## POLICE HAVE NO HOPE.

Paterson Authorities Still Groping in the Dark on the Sullivan Mystery.

New Theories Are Advanced Every Day, but All Have Proved of No Avail.

## INQUEST TO BE HELD TO-NIGHT.

Nicholas Cole's Counsel Will Try to Obtain His Release from Jail on Habeas Corpus Proceedings and Bail If Necessary.

The mystery of Mamie Sullivan's death seemed likely to swell the list of unsolved crimes which is already large in the State of New Jersey.

Nine days have now elapsed since the popular and pretty young music teacher was struck down, her head horribly battered on a public thoroughfare within a block of her home at half-past 9 in the evening, and the police of Paterson admit that they are absolutely in ignorance of anything that might furnish even the scintillation of a clue.

The pitch of excitement to which the populace of Paterson has been worked is necessarily productive of many extraordinary rumors, and day by day new theories are started, only to be run to earth and found to be utterly futile. The enormous amount offered as a reward for the capture of the murderer naturally stimulates the growth of these imaginative fables, and Chief of Police Graul has the placid surface of his amiable disposition ruffled hourly by cracks and would-be confessions which he is obliged to ignore.

That the Police Department still fondly clings to the idea that no murder was committed at all was evident from an interview with the Chief yesterday.

Chief Graul said yesterday: "We are still working on the murder, and if there is a murderer we hope to catch him, but if not, it is easy to see our task is not an easy one. Every clue that presents itself is being followed up." When asked if Nicholas Cole would be released from custody on his lawyer's application, the Chief said that such a thing was hardly probable under existing circumstances. He refused to assert, however, that even the smallest application will be attached to the silk man's application. He said that a girl near the scene of the murder the following night.

Chief Graul willingly showed two samples of the letters he is contentedly receiving containing suggestions of the causes of Mary E. Sullivan's death. The first of these reads as follows:

"I think if you would look up the scamps who thrived with Mamie Sullivan in that neighborhood, I think you will find the one who murdered Mamie Sullivan. I have seen these young scamps in that neighborhood." The other favored the trolley car theory, and the Chief said that such a thing was hardly probable under existing circumstances. He refused to assert, however, that even the smallest application will be attached to the silk man's application. He said that a girl near the scene of the murder the following night.

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## WILL NOT FORGIVE HIS WIFE.

John F. Meyer Will Seek Divorce When Mrs. Meyer Recovers.

John F. Meyer, a hotel keeper at No. 42 Sherman avenue, Jersey City, whose wife attempted suicide by taking carbolic acid last Saturday night, said yesterday that he would sue for divorce when his wife recovers. She is now in Christ Hospital. Close watch is kept upon her to prevent another attempt at self-destruction. Meyer said that because John G. McGraw, who recently boarded with him, had been talking about the case he would tell the facts.

Last Saturday night he went from his bedroom upstairs and surprised his wife coming out of McGraw's room. He accused her of impropriety. She asserted her innocence and said she would kill herself if Meyer would not believe her.

After he returned downstairs she took the poison. He ordered McGraw out of the house. He went. Two years ago Meyer had trouble with his wife about Adolph Brown, a man about whom he accused of alienating his wife's affections.

## New Brighton Trustees to Meet.

New Brighton, S. I., March 12.—The New Brighton trustees have called a special meeting for Monday evening for the purpose of considering the question of renewing the contract with the Staten Island Water Supply Company, which expired some time ago.

## THE THIEF BROKE JAIL.

Stevenson's Wife, When Permitted to See Him, Gave Him Tools to Effect His Escape.

Vineland, N. J., March 12.—Albert Stevenson broke jail about 2 o'clock this morning and escaped. He was helped by his young bride, who, on the pretense of "seeing him just for a few minutes," stepped slyly into the cell and handed him something which she had hid under her cloak.

This morning the officer found that Stevenson, after cutting his cell almost to pieces, had escaped through a hole in the floor. Stevenson had been wanted for some time by the police on a charge of stealing chickens from Dr. Elliott. Officer Fowler saw Stevenson on the street yesterday and seized him by the throat. Stevenson fought the officer so hard that he probably would have escaped had not Detective Nickerson arrived.

## SUCCUMBED TO PNEUMONIA.

Mrs. Bargas Contracted It While Being Removed from Her Burning Home.

Elizabeth, N. J., March 12.—Mrs. Rosa Bargas, the widow whose home at Cranford, near here, was struck by lightning in the thunder storm last Saturday, died yesterday. She was ill in bed and was carried to the home of Miss Emeline Dimham, near by. The exposure resulted in an attack of pneumonia, which terminated her death. She was of Mexican birth, aged forty-three years and leaves a boy seven years old.

## FRETTED HIS LIFE OUT.

Rev. Dr. Elliott D. Tompkins Died Suddenly from a Broken Heart.

Every Member of His Church Remained Away from Services Last Sunday.

## HE COULD NOT STAND THE AFFRONT.

They Objected to the High Church Form of Worship, Though He Had Been Pastor for Twenty-five Years.

Long Branch, N. J., March 12.—The sudden death of Rev. Dr. Elliott D. Tompkins, for the last twenty-five years rector of St. James's Protestant Episcopal Church, was a great shock to the community, and is keenly felt by a large circle of friends.

The circumstances surrounding Mr. Tompkins' death and the causes leading up to it are extremely sad and painful to his many friends. Late he had noticed a marked change in the demeanor of his parishioners toward him, and, unable to divine the reason for it, he seems to have fretted himself into a condition of illness, which his frail constitution could not withstand.

Last Sunday morning he appeared in the church to celebrate the usual Lenten services, only to be confronted by an unbroken line of empty pews—not a single worshiper being found in the church. This was too much for the pastor, and returning to the parsonage he wrote out his resignation and forwarded it to one of the vestrymen. He then took to his bed, and an announcement was made that no evening service would be held. Since that hour he hovered between life and death, with Dr. Hughes watching ceaselessly over him until life was extinct.

It is given out that death resulted from nervous prostration, while it is generally believed that the good man died of a broken heart. Outside of his immediate flock, he was beloved by the entire community, and the people are still at a loss to understand the cause of the sudden affront put upon him, except it be his tendency to the high church form of worship, which to some of the members appeared objectionable, but had never been opposed by them in a manner to cause action on the part of the church authorities.

Dr. Tompkins was sixty-one years old, and leaves a widow and three grown up daughters.

## EX-PREACHER IN JAIL.

Edwin R. Russell Was Once a Prominent and Rich Episcopal Minister in Paterson.

Passaic, N. J., March 12.—Edwin R. Russell, of No. 44 Lafayette avenue, who was arrested yesterday on complaint of Chief of Police Edward, in Paterson, in the United States Hotel, was arraigned before Police Justice Bowker this morning.

Russell was formerly a prominent Episcopal minister. He is fifty-four years of age, and ten years ago had charge of St. Paul's Episcopal Church, in Paterson. He was respected and lived in comfortable bachelor apartments.

Mrs. Jane Brown, a widow, then seventy years of age, because he had been given to her a small house, and shortly afterward was married to Russell. She had decided all the property belonging to the woman. Russell afterward resigned as pastor of the church, and went to Florida, where he had charge of a church. He remained there five years, and when he returned to this country he was given to him by his wife a small house, and shortly afterward was married to Russell. She had decided all the property belonging to the woman.

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## DRUG CLERK TAKES HIS LIFE.

Clifford C. Simpson Swallows Morphine Pills and Is Found Dead.

Newark, N. J., March 12.—Clifford C. Simpson, twenty-one years old, a drug clerk, committed suicide last night in George Crombie's roadside, on Frelinghuysen avenue, by swallowing morphine pills. He lived at No. 10 Miller street, with his parents.

Simpson entered the roadside shortly after dark and called for a drink, after which he wrote letters to his parents and brother. Then, placing the letters in his pocket, Simpson swallowed the pills, which he took from a small bottle. After talking to his mother he went into the parlor, lay down on a couch and was soon fast asleep.

When Crombie tried to awaken him at closing-up time, he could not arouse Simpson, and attributing his stupor to liquor, Crombie placed a comforter over him and retired.

At 6 o'clock this morning a servant discovered Simpson's dead body in the parlor and word was sent to his parents. When they arrived at the place they were met with grief. They could not assign any cause for the suicide.

County Physician, Washington, after the body was given a permit for its removal, Simpson was employed by G. G. Bacon, a wholesale druggist, in New York.

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